

External affairs welcomes new leader

Susan Green takes the helm July 1.

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The fight against campus crime

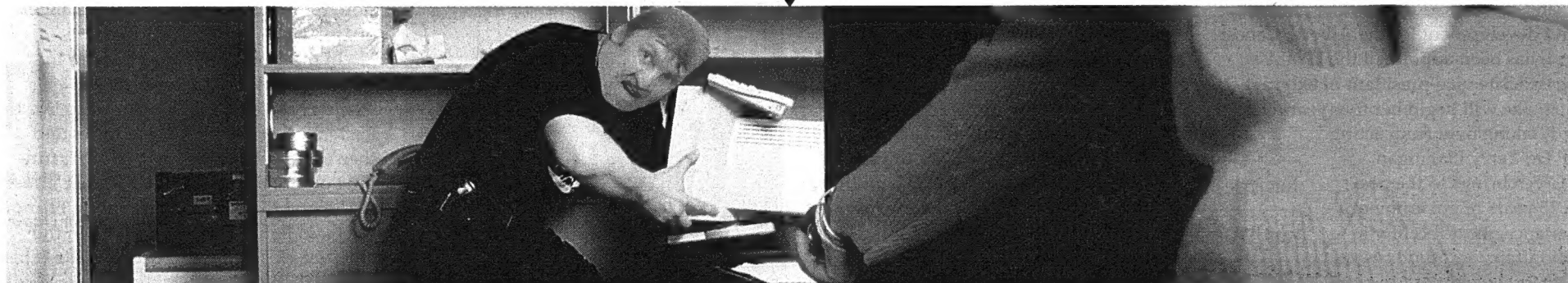
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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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GFC approves new course evaluations

Many faculty uneasy with questionnaire

By Geoff McMaster

Students will evaluate instructors with a new rating scale next year, much to the chagrin of a number of faculty members. After lengthy debate, General Faculties Council voted 37-29 last week to revise the Universal Student Rating of Instruction Questionnaire. The document is used by department chairs to assess teaching performance and "initiate constructive change in curriculum and instruction."

The most contentious revision concerns the wording of questions rating instructor, course content, and overall quality of a given course. Respondents will now be asked to strongly agree, agree, take a neutral position, disagree or strongly disagree to positive assertions concerning a course, instead of using the traditional excellent to poor scale. Some GFC members argued the new scale could be misinterpreted by students.

"It seems to me that...we will receive a response that doesn't mean anything," said Dean of Engineering David Lynch. "If the entire class strongly disagrees that the instructor was excellent, I'm not really sure whether it means the instructor was necessarily extremely poor or was just very good."

Lynch said it was important to have a precise system for interpreting results because "none of us benefits from ambiguity."

Association of Academic Staff President Wayne Renke tried unsuccessfully to

Students know, when filling out the form in the classroom, what the scale is. You have to assume they'll understand and honestly answer it, knowing that they're doing this to provide a good gauge as to how the professor performs.

— Students' Union President Sheamus Murphy



General Faculties Council voted 37-29 last week to revise the Universal Student Rating of Instruction Questionnaire.

table the motion for further reflection. "When I took this matter to our executive council, there was a very clear sense that there should be further consultation with academic staff...so that GFC debate may be fully informed by staff members on the policy," he said. "There are going to be a lot more questions out there by the people whose careers are determined by this particular document."

Dr. Ivan Ivankovich, also urging further review of proposed changes, said, "It's important for faculty members to know and really understand what students have communicated to them. One more year under the existing scheme I don't think is going to hurt us—a few years under the new scheme without this kind of consideration will be extremely detrimental to the students, and to the faculty members..."

However both Associate Vice-President (Academic) Anne Marie Decore and Dr. Mick Price of the Teaching Evaluation Sub-Committee said an extensive body of literature shows students treat both scales in the same way. Because the existing questionnaire uses two scales to elicit responses from students, changes were proposed after a campus-wide survey last November to make results more consistent.

"The simple fact is that students used both questions (based on the different scales) in exactly the same way...we looked at the best in the world and tested it here. This is the scholarly approach rather than a subjective approach," said Price.

Students' Union President Sheamus

Murphy said he was satisfied with the new questionnaire. "Students know, when filling out the form in the classroom, what the scale is," he said. "You have to assume they'll understand and honestly answer it, knowing that they're doing this to provide a good gauge as to how the professor performs."

Vice-President (Academic) and Provost Doug Owram said the evaluation system has been before GFC in one form or another since 1993 and will likely continue to undergo revision. "We recognize that no single form of evaluation is perfect and we should not rest purely on a student rating [of instruction]," he said. ■

It seems to me that... we will receive a response that doesn't mean anything.

— Dean of Engineering David Lynch

Tina Chang

External affairs welcomes new leader

Cancer board VP set to fire up alumni

By Geoff McMaster

Susan Green, vice-president of planning and development for the Alberta Cancer Board, has been appointed the U of A's new associate vice-president of external affairs. She will begin her five-year term July 1, taking over from acting AVP Dr. Terry Flannigan.

Green brings to the position 25 years of government experience, most recently in public affairs and fundraising. She spearheaded the Alberta Cancer Foundation's \$60-million Conquering Cancer campaign, which has raised \$28.2 million so far in just more than a year, and is asking the provincial government for \$30 million to achieve the target.

"This is clearly someone who has leadership experience both in terms of fundraising activity and public affairs with respect to a high profile public organization," says Vice-President (Research and External Affairs) Roger Smith. "The reality is, we need strong leadership. We do have real growth potential in alumni affairs and we have real challenges in terms of communications activity...in effectively communicating with our diverse publics."

Green is no stranger to the U of A, having been recently a member of both the Senate (elected 1995) and briefly the Board of Governors (1998). She graduated from the U of A in 1974 with a BA in recreation administration. After taking some course work towards a master's degree in community development, she began working full time for the Department of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs as a senior intergovernmental officer.

"Those were fabulous times," she says. "I co-ordinated the first ministers federal and provincial conferences. I also co-ordinated [Premier Peter] Lougheed's trip to the USSR, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia."

She served briefly as a consultant for the Alberta International Assistant Program, assessing Alberta aid projects in Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Egypt, before taking up a job in 1979 as executive assistant for Mary Lemessurier, then Alberta's minister of culture. In 1983 she became executive assistant to the Minister of Hospitals and Medical Care, David J. Russell.



New external affairs AVP Susan Green.

"It was ballet to bedpans," she says. "It was kind of interesting to go from the softer side of government to the harder issues you deal with in health care." She remained with hospitals and medical care, serving as consultant and policy adviser, until she moved to the Alberta Cancer Board in 1988, where she started as vice-president of administration. Since then she has been responsible for all of the board's communications, including editing a semi-annual publication called *Facing Cancer*, and has been executive officer for the Alberta Cancer Founda-

tion, the fundraising arm of the cancer board.

In the early '90s, Green became increasingly interested in politics. In 1992 she ran Nancy MacBeth's campaign for the leadership of the provincial Tories and then struck out on her own in 1997, running on the Tory ticket against "the ghost of [Liberal MLA] Bettie Hewes" in Edmonton Gold Bar. While she didn't win the race, she closed the gap between the Liberals and Tories considerably, losing by only 1700 votes.

What most attracted Green to external affairs at the U of A, she says, was the rapid growth of the office over the past few years, and especially the success of the campus-wide fundraising campaign.

"I just think it's a happening kind of place," she says. "I'm impressed with the quality of people — not just the staff and faculty but students as well. I honestly believe that Edmontonians, Albertans and Canadians have a much better sense of the tremendous assets we have at the university through an increased public profile."

"I think what I would like to focus on more specifically would be alumni affairs and fostering those relationships that are so critical so we can move up to 30 per cent [in terms of financial support from alumni]."

Correction

In the last issue, children making nylon in the photo "Scientists in the making" were participating in Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour's class, not Dr. Helen Madill's.

folio

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...it makes sense

New 2001 Games site recommendation selected

Some community reps surprised but call it a reasonable compromise overall

By Geoff McMaster

Residents were caught by surprise last week when the university announced its site recommendation for the 2001 World Championships in Athletics practice stadium.

Lansdowne Community League representative Tom Maters called the site a "positive compromise," and the stadium an important legacy for neighboring communities.

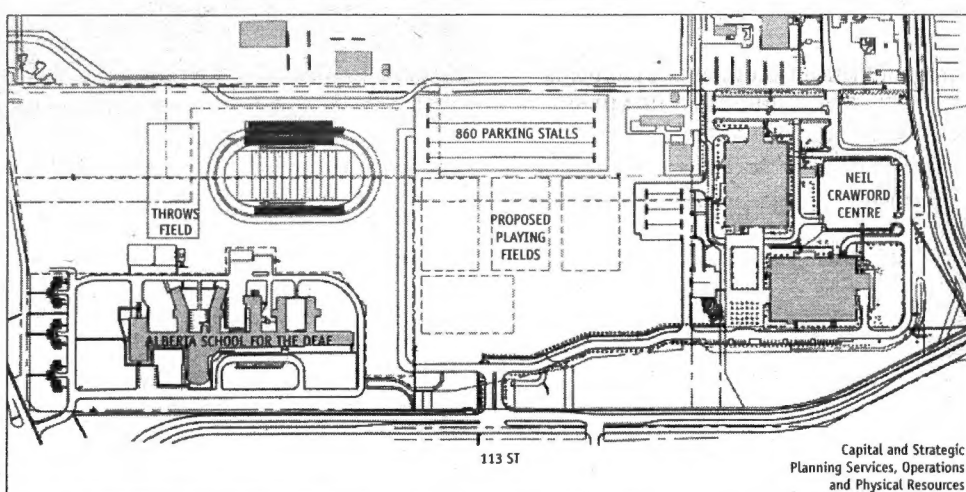
"My opinion is that the site recommended is an improvement over the Neil Crawford site, because the facility will be partly shielded from view by the School for the Deaf building," says Maters, "so it's a less intrusive structure. Invariably, when there is a contentious project, there have to be compromises. You use some of the farmland, but the trade-off is it's less visible, particularly to Parkallen."

However, some community representatives say they are less than satisfied with the proposal — which would use provincial land immediately to the west of the Alberta School for the Deaf as well as some U of A farmland — since it was never officially on the table during the consultation process.

"With all of the public feedback, none of it will be specific to this site," says Lendrum community representative, Kathie Brett. "It wasn't part of the original package. Although some of the issues will be similar, there is the additional issue of incursion on farmland. For a lot of people in our communities here, that is a significant concern."

Although she is pleased with the university's consultation process so far, many residents are worried about the precedent set by introducing a proposal late in the hour before sufficient community review.

Brett says she felt the university was backed into a corner by the province with



2001 World Championships in Athletics practice stadium recommendation: a "positive compromise and an important legacy for neighboring communities."

the latest plan. "I don't believe they would have chosen this site if there had been any other decent site," she says.

Brett is hopeful the university and the seven communities in the University Farm Neighbors Alliance can work out the thornier issues.

"We found the university has been open...we're quite optimistic we can make this facility as community-friendly as possible," she says. "We have to live with it, but I think we can work with it."

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a new site," says McKernan community representative Jason Montgomery. He says he and others had regarded the site immediately south of the Neil Crawford Centre as the best off-campus option for the 3,000-seat stadium, but the province has reserved that site for its own use, says Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Glenn Harris.

"[The stadium] doesn't belong out behind the Alberta School for the Deaf," says Montgomery. "The school hasn't been consulted on this and I think they're the

ones who are going to be most affected by it." Others are worried about a possible increase in traffic in the area.

Harris explained, however, that after lengthy review and negotiation with the province, the recommended site is the only workable alternative. "It doesn't raise a whole lot of new issues, compared to the Neil Crawford site. It's a variation on the same theme." He says the School for the Deaf will have to be given a chance to air their concerns, since they have not until now been included in consultations.

"There's always going to be a level of anxiety associated with any change in use of property, but we're quite confident this facility doesn't adversely affect people in close proximity to it."

However, Montgomery says he'd like to see the province become directly involved in the community consultation process. "The university has taken a very progressive step by entertaining the whole issue of consultation," he says, "but we haven't had all the players at the table — the province needs to be there."

The alliance will meet with the finance and property committee May 4 to communicate its concerns before the next Board of Governors meeting on May 7. ■

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— Lendrum representative,
Kathie Brett

The fight against campus crime

Do we need armed guards?

By Geoff McMaster

At last month's General Faculties Council meeting, Dr. Louis Francescutti raised a few eyebrows, and caught the attention of the local media, when he suggested it might be time to consider arming campus security guards. His own office had been broken into only days before, and after 20 years at the U of A, he was disturbed by what he perceived to be a recent rise in crime. He argued it would only be a matter of time before a guard or staff member was seriously hurt in a confrontation with a criminal.

The response of Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Glenn Harris to Francescutti's suggestion was unequivocal: "I would like to be clear that the University of Alberta is not considering the arming of campus security officers with firearms." A Campus Security telephone survey revealed only the University of British Columbia supplements its security force with armed RCMP officers, he said. "The general perception of canvassed universities supports our view that armed security officers are not warranted."

No other faculty member was moved to speak to the issue when it was thrown open for discussion at GFC last week. Dismayed at the reaction sparked by his remarks, even Francescutti was willing by then to admit the thought of security packing heat might be a bit excessive (they've carried extendable batons since 1997 and may choose to wear soft body armor as well). But since one other office he uses was broken into—this time a \$11,000 computer server was stolen—Francescutti was adamant something needs to be done to deter crime on campus.

"Security people don't scare the criminal element unless they're perceived to be a threat," he says, "and most people don't think an unarmed security guard is a threat. I'm a visionary and would much rather be talking about this now rather than after a violent incident later on."

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Glenn Harris



Left to right, back row: Cst. Trish Gagne, Dr. Louis Francescutti, Cst. Rob Rubuliak, Sgt. Al Belanger, Cst. Grace Berry. Front row: Cst. Darcy Pennock, Cst. Dave Herchak.

He says people tend to have a false sense of security because of the relative isolation of the campus. "I know the pattern of these injuries," says the emergency physician and professor of public health sciences. "They happen usually when you least expect them, and so if we're not expecting anything to happen on campus, we're not going to be prepared when it does."

Establishing a police research institute at the U of A — which would include some enforcement as a byproduct — is one suggestion that's come up in private discussions, says Francescutti. Edmonton police detective John Evans, a researcher with the Canadian Police Research Centre, says such a proposal is still in draft phase.

"What I'd like to see...is an operational police station located on or right next to the university," says Evans. "They would

attend to matters at the university but are not there to simply take over the job of campus security. In that same building you'd have researchers, students, classrooms for police officers — you'd have that synergy of talent...it's something everybody could benefit from."

Campus Security Director Brian McLeod says he's all for building relationships with the police, offering access to resources and encouraging them to become more involved in campus crime investigations. But looking outside for help with enforcement isn't necessary, he says, since incidents of violence on campus are rare, "isolated" occurrences.

Crimes against property, however, have increased, particularly thefts of computers and accessories. In McLeod's view, the solution is to encourage everyone in the university community to accept responsibility for theft prevention. Guns, even if carried by the odd community police officer, are not the answer, he says.

"I think it would be somewhat naïve to say it would never happen," he says. "But at the present time my assessment is this community does not want firearms in this environment. I don't think we've moved towards the trends we've seen in the U.S. where...they have armed police officers on a lot of campuses."

Students' Union President Sheamus Murphy agrees. He says since McLeod was himself an RCMP officer for some 27 years, "we already have that (professional police experience) on our side." Murphy concedes the need for more officers on duty than the current maximum shift of five (minimum three), especially at night, but he does not want to see us adopt the American model.

"I think Dr. Francescutti was just a little shaken by his experience," says Murphy. "But...it'll be a dark day when campus security officers have guns. This is a learning environment, and guns have no place here."

It'll be a dark day when
campus security officers
have guns.

— Students' Union President
Sheamus Murphy

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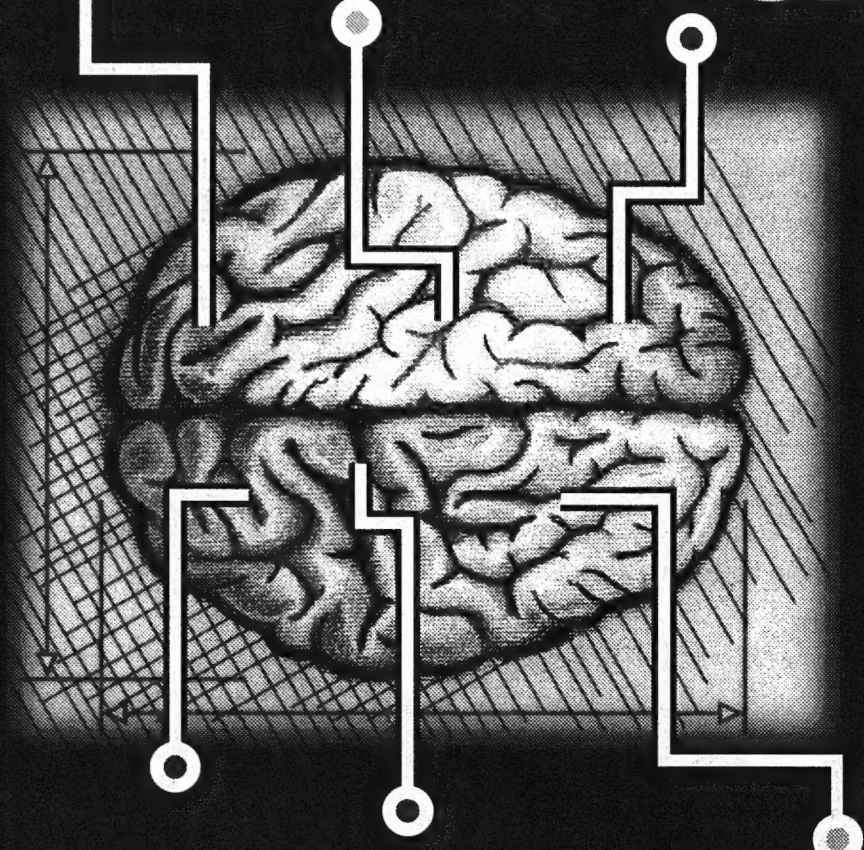
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Gearing up for the Corporate Challenge

Team Up '99 needs participants and volunteers

Stories by Lucianna Ciccocioppo

It's that time of year again — time to shake off the last vestiges of winter and gear up for a spring full of sunshine and Corporate Challenge activities. Once again, the University of Alberta is one of more than 140 corporations in Edmonton participating in the two-week event, May 28-June 13. More than 10,000 people city-wide will participate in 21 activities ranging from squash, running, and badminton to lawn bowling, horseshoes and team triathlon. This year the new activity is swimming.

Overall, the U of A tied for eighth place last year with Dow Chemicals, out of 28 companies in its category. With teams in all events, the university brought home five medals altogether for table tennis, badminton, soccer, squash and slo-pitch. Volleyball and mountain bike racing pulled in honorable mentions. Overall, about 200 people participated.

All university full-time employees are eligible to participate. And you don't have to be a "jock" to join the teams either. Whether you're a casual or die-hard athlete, or wish to volunteer at events, the Corpo-

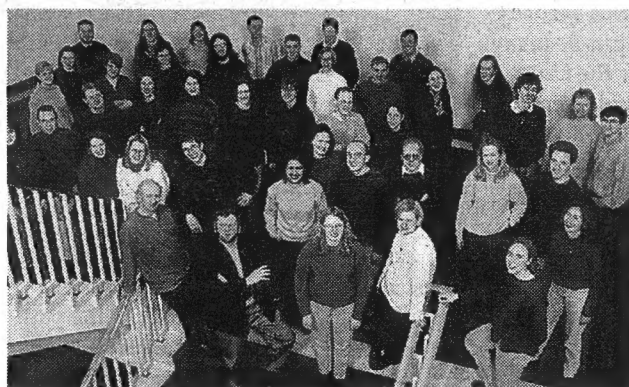


rate Challenge is a chance to foster campus spirit and camaraderie, as well as encourage healthy lifestyles.

There is also a blood donor challenge on until May 9. Staff, students and friends are all eligible to help beat the U of A's second-place standing in 1998. The March 26 kickoff pulled in 181 people in one day, twice as many as the top company last year, the Workers' Compensation Board. So far, the U of A tally is 224 units of blood, or 281 points, says Linda Dudley, who spearheaded the blood donor challenge.

The insurance risk management coordinator says while the numbers are "absolutely super," many people also donated time and food. "It's important donors sign up with the Corporate Challenge sheet at the Canadian Blood Services," adds Dudley.

For more information on participating in the Corporate Challenge, contact Barb Hepperle at bhepperl@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca. To volunteer, contact Kerry Hynes at kerry.hynes@ualberta.ca or check out the Web site at <http://campusrec.ualberta.ca/corp.htm>.



Madrigal Singers bound for Ireland

U of A's Madrigal Singers are getting ready to head on their third international competition tour in five years. Directed by Dr. Leonard Ratzlaff, the choir is one of 11 from nine countries invited to participate in the 46th annual Cork International Choral Competition in Ireland, April 29-May 2. A fund-

raising concert at First Presbyterian Church, 10025-105 St. is slated for Sunday, April 25, 8 p.m. Admission is free but donations to the Madrigal Singers tour fund will be appreciated. For further information, call 492-5306.

May the luck of the Irish be with you, eh!

More dollars for health research

Health Minister Allan Rock, Justice Minister Anne McLellan and Dr. Joel Weiner, representing the Medical Research Council (MRC), announced a \$4 million funding boost for Alberta researchers last week, part of a \$47 million package from the federal government. That's a windfall for 10 U of A researchers, who received almost \$2 million in total.

In a statement, Rock said the MRC's base budget increased by \$82.5 million

over three years and this package represents the first spending of those monies. The funding will increase support in several areas of health research and help build the bridge to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The new measures include:

- 109 new operating grants and 57 new personnel awards, worth \$34 million distributed across Canada, including \$4 million in Alberta
- \$2 million per year over three years for a regional partnership program
- \$1.9 million challenge partnership program with health charities
- \$3 million CIHR opportunity fund to help leverage additional resources
- \$2.1 million to help fund clinical trials in 1999
- six new health services research awards

Funded projects include research into child development, women's health, cardiovascular health, cancer, stroke, obesity and HIV/AIDS.

Additional MRC funding was announced for U of A researchers:

Dr. Shelagh D. Campbell	Dr. Redwan Moqbel
Dr. Marek Duszyk	Dr. Susan E. Andrew
Dr. Aziz Ghahary	Dr. Bodh I. Jugdutt
Dr. Zoltan J. Koles	Dr. Janice M. Morse
Dr. Richard Lehner	Dr. Robert O. Ryan

»» quick »» facts

Righteousness unbounded: power and morality in Kosovo

By Dr. Tom Keating, Department of Political Science

The air assault on Yugoslavia launched by the United States and its allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including Canada, raises a number of important questions. Unfortunately these questions, along with any dissenting views, have been largely ignored by the media in the rush to cover a good war story. The bombing campaign has been presented in the public statements of political leaders and echoed too often uncritically in the media, as a rather straight forward act of punishing the "genocidal" Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic for his crimes against ethnic Albanians living in Kosovo. The intensive bombing campaign has been conducted, it is asserted, in defence of humanitarian objectives and is, in a frequently repeated phrase, a moral imperative. Thousands of refugees fleeing across the Kosovo border, their horrible plight fluttering across our television screens every evening, attest to the severity of the humanitarian disaster wrought by the evil Milosevic. When presented with these "facts" how can one question the righteousness of NATO's response? Yet the response needs to be questioned.

It is a fundamentally flawed response. First, it has made the conflict worse. Instead of adopting the first principle of assistance — do no harm — NATO's air attack has in the short term endangered many lives and increased the flow of refugees. It also interrupted many worthwhile efforts to stem the terrorism that was present in Kosovo and put the lives of those engaged in such efforts in great danger. Second, it has made reconciliation exceedingly more difficult, if not impossible. Third, as a result, it has left NATO acting in support of the separatist

objectives of the Kosovo Liberation Army (UCK), a group even the U.S. government identified in the past as terrorists and whose hands are by no means clean in this conflict. Fourth, NATO's abrogation of authority in deciding Yugoslavia needed to be punished for crimes against its own citizens violated international law, undermined any potential authority the United Nations might claim, and reinforced the view that force should prevail over alternative means for resolving conflicts. Fifth, behind the rhetoric of morality and humanitarian causes in this case, lies the clear inconsistency in American and NATO practice which has actively supported oppressive regimes with records as bad, if not worse, than that of Milosevic's Yugoslavia. This inconsistency reflects a blatant double-standard and implicitly suggests other considerations such as geopolitical interests are very much a part of this action. It also severely undermines the claims of legitimacy made by NATO governments.

NATO's air assault on Yugoslavia needs to be viewed in the wider context of NATO and American policy in the region. Since the end of the cold war, NATO has been seeking new tasks. Initially, it sought a role in implementing UN peacekeeping mandates in European conflicts. This, in part, was responsible for NATO's current activities in Bosnia. NATO's recent actions against Yugoslavia, however, mark a radical departure from this role and from the alliance's original mandate, one with far-reaching and potentially dangerous consequences. NATO governments have decided on their own and without input from the wider international community of states

that the government of another country needs to be punished with violent force because of the way it has treated its citizens. Leaving aside the not unimportant question of the role of the United States in leading NATO in this direction, one must ask how NATO acquired this revolutionary mandate. There is no provision within the Washington Treaty of 1949 permitting this action. NATO spokespeople have argued the alliance is responding to a higher calling, a moral responsibility, to protect individuals from harm even from their own governments and in defiance of long-standing principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. There is growing support for such arguments that the world needs to move away from the more traditional principle of non-intervention to one enshrining human rights and human security regardless of political borders and sovereignty. NATO's actions may indeed reflect this transition. This transition, however, has not yet been accepted into international law. And there is a general consensus the authority to determine when and if violations have occurred and how they should be addressed must be left with a truly international authority such as the UN or the recently established international criminal court. In assuming this new mandate, NATO governments have neither legitimized it within the framework of international law nor secured the support of their own citizens.

There are also important questions about the limits to this allegedly humanitarian mandate. Should we, for example, expect NATO to turn its bombers loose on other governments that have confronted separatists with violence and repression? The list

would be a long one, many of which would easily match the brutality in the Balkans and have generated humanitarian crisis of equal or greater proportions. The alliance might, for example, wish to review how Turkey's government has been treating the Kurdish people, or the morality of the Colombian government's activities, both of which have been extensively supported by American military supplies. The new morality guiding NATO policy is very selective. It is also influenced by geopolitical considerations. The assertion of a strong NATO presence in the Balkans, first in Bosnia and now in Kosovo, alongside the recent expansion of NATO membership marks a significant strategic advance by the alliance into Eastern Europe, a region of both geopolitical and economic importance. If successful, this advance would provide NATO and the United States with control over a vital east-west oil, gas and transportation corridor. It might, however, also unleash a major war in the region.

The abrogation of responsibility for the righteous causes of humanity by NATO might arguably be commendable if the alliance had greater legitimacy and credibility beyond the borders of its member countries and if its actions were more consistent with the rhetoric of its leaders. Unfortunately it doesn't and they are not. Hedley Bull, an insightful observer of world politics, warned nearly fifteen years ago: "Particular states or groups of states that set themselves up as the authoritative judges of the world common good, in disregard of the views of others, are in fact a menace to international order, and thus to effective action in this field." It is a warning that needs repeating today. ■

Molecular test for Wilson disease predicts copper poisoning in liver

Early diagnosis prolongs life, says medical geneticist

By Barbara Every

Chocolate, red wine, mushrooms, nuts, shellfish. They could be part of a tantalizing grocery list for a gourmet meal, but these foods have something else in common — they are high in copper, a naturally occurring metal found all around us. We absorb a surprising 1.5 to 3 mg of copper daily — far more than humans need to stay healthy.

For most of us, a wonderfully effective system in the liver rids our bodies of excess copper before it builds to toxic levels. But, as Dr. Diane Cox, professor and chair of the Department of Medical Genetics, explained at the department's inaugural conference, people with Wilson disease inherit a defective gene from both parents that allows copper to accumulate, eventually leading to liver disease and brain damage.

Cox's research team cloned the gene for Wilson disease in 1993. Now they're searching for the mutations that will not only unravel how copper is transported in the body, but will also help identify patients before symptoms appear. Says Cox: "Early diagnosis of this condition is critical."

Affecting one in 30,000 people, Wilson disease is "an important disorder of copper transport because it's a treatable form of liver disease and many are not," she says. The disorder may first unmask itself as liver disease in someone as early as age three, or as late as age 50. Alternatively,

neurological symptoms may surface, accompanied by speech and swallowing difficulties. About 25 per cent of patients become aggressive or develop schizophrenic symptoms, which are sometimes easily missed as the only early signs of the disease. Left untreated, Wilson disease is fatal, usually before age 30.

Biochemical tests are unreliable for identifying patients, especially when symptoms have not yet appeared. One test measures blood levels of ceruloplasmin, a copper-binding protein often low in people who have inherited the disease. But a study from Austria shows 50 per cent of patients with liver disease can have a normal level of ceruloplasmin, says Cox, "so this test may allow patients to be missed."

In other cases, individuals who carry one abnormal gene have been mistakenly diagnosed and put on lifelong therapy. "It turns out they're not patients at all," says Cox. These people will never have the disease, unlike those who carry two abnormal genes.

"There is no single test or even combination of biochemical tests that is effective in all cases for identifying patients," says Cox. "That's why molecular diagnosis is becoming an important adjunct" to biochemical testing.

Cox's group has developed such a molecular test. They identified a particular combination of markers on chromosome

13 associated with the defective Wilson disease gene. With this test, there is no need to find the mutant gene. The markers themselves act as a flag to herald Wilson disease. This reliable approach "is now commonly used for identifying presymptomatic patients," says Cox.

The normal Wilson disease gene produces a protein involved in copper transport. Cox's group is searching for mutations in the most critical regions of the gene that change the way this protein

works. More than 100 mutations have been found so far, which "means there are many places where something could go wrong," says Cox. Separating variations in the normal population from mutations related to disease is not an easy task. But "yeast genes with human counterparts are helping us sort out what goes on in human cells," she says.

Cox is one of 16 scientists who presented research at the Genetics 2000: Gene Discovery and Beyond conference last week. ■



Federal Justice Minister Anne McLellan visited the Dept. of Medical Genetics and announced \$2 million in MRC funding, on behalf of Health Minister Allan Rock. (See story page 4) Left to right: Drs. Susan Andrew, Diane Cox, Moira Glerum, Dean Lorne Tyrell, Associate Dean Joel Weiner.

A trio of success

MRC, NSERC and SSHRC dollars at work at the U of A

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

THE FIRST FRONTIER: MEMBRANE RESEARCH

Dr. Marek Michalak knows his research area needs some awareness-raising. "If you say cancer, people understand you.

But if you say membranes, they say 'What?'"

Nevertheless, he believes membrane research will be the hot research area of the future, just like gene studies was in the '90s and cloning was in the '80s.

"Membranes are the first frontier. They surround and protect cells from what's going on outside them," says Michalak, a professor of biochemistry. Biological membranes are essential for the normal functioning of cells, for manufacturing proteins and for controlling ion fluctuations in the body. A dysfunctional membrane system and protein process have serious health consequences and have been linked to Alzheimer, cystic fibrosis, cancer, muscular dystrophy and

heart diseases, to name a few examples.

Recently, Michalak and his team have located another link.

"We've found that a properly functioning membrane in the heart is absolutely essential for the normal development of the heart," explains Michalak. It was fascinating, he says, to discover membranes are so critical to organ creation.

In the embryonic stage, an absence of membrane proteins means the embryo dies. Too much, however, produces a syndrome where the heart grows out of control after birth and eventually ceases to function in about 12 months. Only a transplant helps, if one can be found in time.

"If we find a way to slow the process of a failing heart by a couple of years, we can increase the chances of finding a heart. But, ideally, if we can figure out the symptoms

before the real clinical problem sets in, then we can dream of reversing the process."

Michalak is not the only U of A scientist investigating membrane structures and functions. He's one of six researchers involved in the Molecular Biology of Membranes Research Group, founded in 1991 with the support of the medical faculty and the Medical Research Council (MRC). Drs. Joseph Casey, Carol Cass, Larry Fliegel, Bernard Lemire and Joel Weiner all work in this area on a variety of research projects, spanning the physiology, oncology, biochemistry, pediatrics, medical microbiology and immunology departments.

Their work is obviously starting to turn heads. In the last rounds of MRC funding, the membrane research group received more than \$3.5 million—more than 30 per cent of the \$10.8 million in total to the U of A for 1999.

"It's a recognition of this area and of the strength of this area in this institution," says a beaming Michalak, director of the research group.

And with scientists understanding only about one per cent of protein membranes, Michalak and his colleagues have plenty to keep them busy. ■



(Counter clockwise) Drs. Marek Michalak, Carol Cass, Bernard Lemire, Joel Weiner and Joe Casey, of the Molecular Biology of Membranes Research Group, were recently awarded more than \$3.5 million from the MRC.

Medical Research Council Fall '98 results

• Total:	\$10,847,494
• Awards granted:	26
• Rejected:	52
• Applications:	78

»» quick »» facts

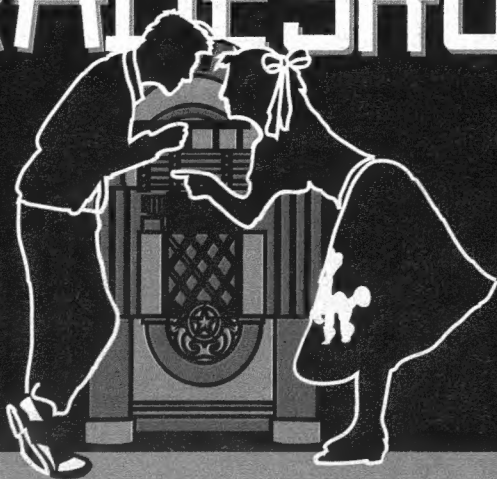
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May 6th

stories

FROM FEELING TO REACTIONS: IT'S ALL IN THE GUT

Dr. Vickie Baracos can't stress enough the importance of gut reactions—that is, the signals which trigger the digestive track's synthesis and degradation of nutrients in the body.

"The functional state of every organ depends on the digestive system. If this isn't working competently, everything else suffers," says Baracos. Call it the "sun" of the inner solar system, if you will. But despite its importance, Baracos says how the digestive system functions and reacts isn't clearly understood. By comparison, muscles have a group of 25 well-characterized signals scientists know initiate synthesis or breakdown.

"Each and every organ will respond to signals to increase or decrease in size and activity," says Baracos, a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science. She uses the muscle system as an example: how big and functional the muscles will get depends on demand (ie. the elite athlete will have more muscle than the average "couch potato"). Baracos says whether muscles are put through endurance training or suffer from inactivity,

there are signals that trigger reactions in particular spots.

"I'm trying to move this thought process to other parts of the body, such as the digestive system," she says. If more food enters the body, the busy digestive system

increases in size and functional activity. If the digestive system is starved, due to illness or inactivity, the system starts to downsize. "It decreases its capacity to do its job," explains Baracos, "and can't digest or absorb food properly."

This has implications for people suffering from diseases or recovering from major surgery with extreme weight loss. "If you don't have a fully functional gut, the net outcome is

If you don't have a fully functional gut, the net outcome is malnutrition. Rehabilitation can be a very long process.

—Dr. Vickie Baracos

malnutrition. Rehabilitation can be a very long process," says Baracos.

And costly to society. "Think of a triple-bypass case. By the time someone leaves the hospital, the person is still in a weakened state and not eating properly. How long will it take to get back to work, live independently and get around?"

Baracos is trying to help speed up the process. Thanks to an experimental system she's developed, unique to the U of A, Baracos can look at all the key nutrients in the digestive system and apply different



Dr. Vickie Baracos: Preventing malnutrition through a better understanding of the digestive system.

molecules one by one or in variations, to see what influences they have. She says she received a "big vote of support from NSERC to do further research" in this area with a four-year \$180,000 grant.

"When we know how the gut is controlled, we can set the conditions for the best possible gut functions to kick in under certain circumstances...The goal is to prevent malnutrition from taking place and rehabilitate if malnutrition has already occurred."

Baracos says there's a proliferation of food products, oral and intravenous, for hospital patients but they're not specialized. "It's a nutritional science that's not

well-developed. In theory, the optimum would be to have a product for each situation."

That's Dr. Baracos' gut feeling. ■

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Fall '98 results

• Total:	\$15,417,856
• Awards granted:	140
• Awards pending:	12
• Rejected:	87
• Applications:	239

» quick » facts

THE HOWS AND WHYS OF ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE

Dr. Bob Hinings, Faculty of Business, likes to joke with people working in professional service firms, comparing the organization of companies such as Ernst & Young and PricewaterhouseCoopers with universities.

"They actually don't like comparisons because they regard universities as one of the most inefficiently managed organizations around," says Hinings with a laugh. "Historically, these firms revolved around administrative tasks. So a managing partner is a managing partner for five to 10 years—just like a dean—then goes back to client business. And a partner in charge of an area is like a department chair. But as people have these administrative positions they're supposed to keep clients and continue to do business."

These are interesting times in the world of organizational management. Accounting firms now call themselves "business advisory firms." Engineering companies are delving into construction and some are also involved in property management. You'd be hard-pressed to see a computer in recent IBM commercials. They too now "sell" advice.

It's a sign of global economies changing from a manufacturing base to a knowledge and service one, says Hinings. "These are the quintessential knowledge organizations," says Hinings. "[They're] absolutely based in the knowledge and professions of their people."

How professional service firms are managed, organized and change is what

Hinings researches. Why the interest? "Because these firms are integral to the operation of society. They're connected to all the big companies in the world."

Take PricewaterhouseCoopers, for example. It employs 144,000 professionals in 120 countries and reaps in \$15 billion U.S. in revenues. Says Hinings: "Some so-called management gurus say if you want to know what the organization of the future will look like, look at professional service firms."

Hinings believes these monolithic firms are "becoming very good at providing their own learning—a 'mini-university.' If they ever decide to move into the executive training market, I don't think universities could compete—except maybe in price."

Hinings isn't the only professor looking into this growing research area. He's been collaborating with Dr.

Royston Greenwood, associate dean (external) for business, for 27 years. Two MBA courses on professional service firm management—unique to the U of A—were developed directly as a result of their research and an introduction to management consulting course will soon be

added. More important, their work has piqued the interest of SSHRC five times—a significant track record. They recently received a three-year \$85,000 grant.

It was no surprise, then, that Hinings was named a Distinguished Scholar by the U.S.-based Academy of Management's organization and management theory division. It's the largest association of management scholars in the world and the award recognizes life-long scholarly contribu-

If professional service firms ever decide to move into the executive training market, I don't think universities could compete.

—Dr. Bob Hinings

tions. It also stands testament to the quality of research at the Centre for Professional Service Firm Management, which Hinings directs, and which is deemed by the U of A to be an emerging Centre of Excellence.

"The dean has told us to emerge already," jokes Hinings. ■

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Fall '98 results

• Total:	\$1,685,645
• Awards granted:	26
• Recommended but not funded:	21
• Rejected:	25
• Applications:	72

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ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

April 26, 10 am

Pamela Hoodless, Research Associate, Hospital for Sick Children, Division of GI and Nutrition, Toronto, "Mechanisms and Function of Smad Proteins in TGF β Signaling." Presented by Cell Biology. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

April 28, 4 pm

Claudia Kent, Department of Biological Chemistry, The University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, "Phosphatidylcholine Biosynthesis: Catalytic and Regulatory Mechanisms." Classroom D, 2F1.04 Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Special Seminar

May 13, 11 am

Brian J. Mee, "B-Lactamases and the Genus Klebsiella." M-137 Biological Sciences Centre. Sponsor: Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network.

Molecular Biology and Genetics Research Group (part of the Genetics 605 series)

April 23, 3:30 pm

Eric Selker, "Control and Function of DNA Methylation." Sponsored by AHFMR. G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

April 30, 3:30 pm

Ross MacIntyre, "A Genetic and Molecular Analysis of the Complex Dumpy Locus in Drosophila — An Old Gene with New Repeats." Sponsored by AHFMR. G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

CHEMISTRY

May 10, 2 pm

John Blanchard, Department of Biochemistry, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University, Bronx, New York, "The Structures and Mechanisms of Enzymes of Bacterial Lysine Biosynthesis." V-107 Physics Wing.

ENGLISH

April 30, 3 pm

Thomas McFarland, Murray Professor of English Emeritus, Princeton University, "The Too-Muchness of Keats: The Narrative Line." L-3 Humanities Centre

EXTENSION — ADDICTIONS STUDIES CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

April 28, 7 pm

Betty Grudnizki, Training Coordinator, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, "Alcohol and Drug Policies in Your Workplace." 239 Corbett Hall. Please call Connie Wildman, 492-5532, (fax) 492-1857 to reserve a space.

EXTENSION — CERTIFICATE IN OIL SANDS TECHNOLOGY

April 30, 1 to 5 pm

Gerry DeSorcy, "Environmental Regulation and the Role and Workings of the EUB." 2-47 Extension Centre. Space is limited—please register with Sheila at 492-3029.

May 7, 1 to 5 pm

Rick Hyndman, "World Oil Supply and the Greenhouse Gas Issue, With the Implications of Each for the Future of the Oil Sands." 2-47 Extension Centre. Space is limited—please register with Sheila at 492-3029.

PERINATAL CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTRE

May 4, noon

Margaret Harrison, "Parenting Stress, Parent-Infant Interaction and the Long Term Development of Healthy Preterm Infants." B762 Women's Centre, Royal Alexander Hospital.

events

EXHIBITIONS

MCMULLEN GALLERY

Until April 25

"No quiet within: recent gifts to the University of Alberta Art and Artifact Collection"—an exhibition of works of art donated to the University of Alberta over the past five years. More than 40 works have been selected from the 400 works of art donated during this time. Included are paintings, prints and print portfolios by notable Canadian artists Illingworth Kerr, Stanley Cosgrove and Liz Ingram, as well as internationally recognized artists Ryoji Ikeda, and Stanislaw Fijalkowski, to name just a few. The McMullen Gallery is operated by the Friends of the University of Alberta Hospital. Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 pm; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 4:00 to 8:00 pm. All hours are subject to the availability of volunteers. For further information contact Museums and Collections Services at 492-5834. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

April 23, 8 pm

Music at Convocation Hall Series featuring faculty members Stéphane Lemelin, piano. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior. Convocation Hall.

WORKSHOPS

ALBERTA CONSORTIUM FOR HEALTH PROMOTION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

May 5, 1999

APHA Pre-conference Workshop. Conversations in Dissemination: A workshop on issues in the creation and application of knowledge. This workshop will focus on how researchers and practitioners can help one another to access, interpret and apply research findings in the Alberta context. Keynote Speaker: Penny Hawe, Dept of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Registration: Limited to 50 participants, \$60 (includes GST)—the registration fee covers the workshop, materials, breaks and lunch. For a registration form, contact the Alberta Centre for Well-Being at (780) 427-6949 or 1-800-661-4551, or e-mail: ivy.rosvold@ualberta.ca. Delta Edmonton South, 4404 Calgary Trail.

JASPER JASNA

May 14 to 16

A conference of the Jane Austen Society of North America being held at the Jasper Park Lodge.

The conference will explore Jane Austen's use of dialogue, conversation, idiolects, and other aspects of oral speech. Speakers will include Jan Fergus, Isobel Grundy, Juliet McMaster, and Claire Tomalin. Topic: "The Talk in Jane Austen." For information or a registration form, contact: Jenni Feldman, Jasper JASNA Secretary, Circulation Desk, North Rutherford Library, University of Alberta, (780) 492-5976 (w), (780) 471-2571 (h), (780) 492-5083 (fax), jennifer.feldman@ualberta.ca.

LEADING THROUGH LEARNING—AN APO CONFERENCE

June 22 and 23

Presented by the APO Learning and Implementation Committee, the conference opens the evening of June 22 with dinner and "Learning Showcase" at the Faculty Club, with guest speaker Chancellor Lois Hole. On June 23, participants will meet at the Devonian Botanic Garden for a full-day session on "action learning," with keynote speaker Marilyn Hersymowych of MHA Institute. APOs will receive additional information and registration materials in the early May, with attendance to be confirmed by May 26. For further information, contact Lynn Burnett Murphy at 6488, or e-mail lynn.burnett-murphy@ualberta.ca.

TOASTMASTERS CLUB MEETING ON CAMPUS

Shake off the winter doldrums with a foray into public speaking! Club Med Toastmasters meets Tuesdays from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in 652 Heritage Medical Research Centre. Designed to fit into the busy schedules of University staff and graduate students, Club Med meetings provide a supportive learning environment for those who wish to undertake this kind of personal development. Check us out any Tuesday—newcomers (and 'shoppers') are welcome. For more information contact President Maureen Innes at mpi@tachy.uah.ualberta.ca.

UTS SPRING 1999 SESSIONS

For the first time ever, University Teaching Services (UTS) is offering a one week spring workshop as part of the pedagogical requirement of the University Teaching (UT) Program. UTS has enlisted the help of Jim Parsons from Secondary Education, who will facilitate five sessions on various aspects of curriculum design. The workshop is offered on five consecutive days, from Monday, May 3 to Friday, May 7, 1999, 10 am to 12:30 pm in 219 CAB. Graduate students are requested to enroll for all five sessions in order to receive credit. The workshop is free of charge and open to all graduate students whether they are enrolled in the UT Program or not. Registration deadline: Friday, April 23, 1999. For more information, call Grace Wiebe, 492-3208; e-mail grace.wiebe@ualberta.ca; or visit our website www.ualberta.ca/~uts/

notices

PHILOSOPHY

April 26, 4 pm

Robert Wilson, Department of Philosophy, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, "Locke's Primary Qualities." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

April 30, 3:30 pm

Mark Migotti, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary, "A Promise Made is a Debt Unpaid" Nietzsche on Promising in the *Genealogy of Morals*." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

PHYSIOLOGY

April 23, 3:30 pm

Esmond J. Sanders, "Denucleation of Embryonic Lens Fibre Cells: An Apoptotic Event?" 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

April 30, 3:30 pm

Luis Gabriel Melo, Department of Physiology, University of Toronto, "Dissecting the Role of ANP in Chronic Regulation of Blood Pressure and Fluid-Electrolyte Balance with Genetic Mouse Models." 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

May 7, 3:30 pm

Spencer Gibson, Department of Pediatrics, National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, Colorado, "Regulation of Apoptosis and Cell Survival: A Matter of Life and Death." 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

WESTERN CANADIAN CENTRE OF STUDIES IN DEAFNESS

May 10, 3 pm

Elaine Kramar Lecture in Communication Disorders. Jay McSpaden, Audiologist, Director of Audiologist Services and Teacher/Professor of the Deaf, "Ears 2 U: A Lecture on Hearing, Listening and Communication." Sign Language Interpreters, Real-time Captioning, and Assistive Listening Devices will be provided. For more information call 492-5213 (v). 2-115 Education North.

Please send notices attention Folio 400 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2E8 or e-mail publicaffairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

"CHIPS & POP" CO-AUTHOR TO SPEAK

The Professional Development Committee (Edmonton) of CACEE (Canadian Association of Career Educators and Employers) presents Robert Barnard, co-author of *Chips & Pop*, decoding the Nexus generation, May 20, 8:45 a.m. registration, 9:30 a.m. talk, at the Colin Lowe Theatre, Canada Place, 9700 Jasper Avenue. *Chips & Pop* moves us beyond the stereotypes of Generation X. Its authors examine features of Nexus common to young people of any generation, as well as the formative experiences that are unique to it: the invention of the computer chip and the instant global media that has transformed pop culture. For further information and registration forms, please call Donna Nordstrom at 492-4291.

FAREWELL TO UNIVERSITY AUDITOR — THE MOUNTAINS BECKON!

Allan Pedden, director of university audit, will be leaving the University of Alberta to accept an executive financial officer position with the Banff Centre. Join staff of the Audit Office and Allan's many friends and associates to express thanks for his contributions to the university and to wish him well at a wine and cheese reception, April 30, 1999, 3:00-7:00 p.m., Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall. To share anecdotes and stories, or to make a gift contribution, contact: Serina Poon at 234 Athabasca Hall, 492-0628 or serina.poon@ualberta.ca.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY PARTY

The University of Alberta community is invited to the Students' Union and Community Day Care Centre's 25th anniversary party, Mon. May 17th, 1999. Join us for an Open House, celebration program and festivities from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We're looking forward to seeing 25 years' worth of past attendees, board members, staff and volunteers! RSVP to Karen at 435-2751 or april.buchanan@ualberta.ca.

Graduate student teaching award winners

Faculties, students and staff, in consultation with U of A deans, have selected 46 teaching assistants to receive graduate student teaching awards. The annual awards recognize teaching assistants with superior subject knowledge and work commitment, and who are respected by their students. The awards are administered through University Teaching Services (UTS). Here are the 1999 awardees:

Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics

1. Jennifer Franklin, Department of Renewable Resources
2. Jody Mackenzie, Department of Rural Economy

Faculty of Arts

1. Mark Burgess, Department of Psychology
2. Barbra Churchill, Department of Comparative Literature, Religion, and Film/Media Studies
3. Karine Germann, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies: Germanic, Romance, Slavic
4. Wendy Maurier, Department of Sociology
5. Meghan McKinnie, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies: Germanic, Romance, Slavic
6. Kim Speers, Department of Political Science
7. Monique Tschofen, Department of Comparative Literature, Religion, and Film/Media Studies
8. Yoke-Sum Wong, Department of Sociology

Faculty of Business

1. Jane Saber

Faculty of Education

1. David Chorney, Department of Secondary Education
2. Margaretha Ebbes, Department of Elementary Education
3. Monica Ellis, Department of Elementary Education

4. William Muirhead, Department of Educational Policy Studies
5. William Smale, Department of Educational Policy Studies

Faculty of Engineering

1. Noah Aklilu, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
2. Kristin Berg, Department of Mechanical Engineering
3. Kevin Bittorf, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering
4. Jocelyn Grozic, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Faculty of Medicine and Oral Health Sciences

1. Denise Hemmings, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology

Faculty of Nursing

1. Judith E Mill

Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

1. Donald Husereau

Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation

1. Nicholas L Holt

Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

1. Laura Anne May

Faculty of Science

1. Ilka Bauer, Department of Biological Sciences
2. David Beilman, Department of Biological Sciences

3. Peter Campbell, Department of Mathematical Sciences
4. Ranesa Cooper, Department of Biological Sciences
5. Carolina Diaz-Goana, Department of Computing Science
6. Karen M Fallas, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
7. Julian Fogel, Department of Computing Science
8. Tyler Foster, Department of Physics
9. Murray K Gingras, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
10. Scott Gusba, Department of Mathematical Sciences
11. Kirk Kaminsky, Department of Physics
12. Nusha Keyghobadi, Department of Biological Sciences
13. Aaron MacDonald, Department of Chemistry
14. Sabeen Mapara, Department of Biological Sciences
15. Ashutosh Muni, Department of Computing Science
16. Elisa Murguly, Department of Chemistry
17. Mark Nitz, Department of Chemistry
18. David Rabuka, Department of Chemistry
19. Anna Robertson, Department of Mathematical Sciences
20. Truong Ta, Department of Chemistry
21. Trudy NH Wohlleben, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences



The 1999 Celebration of Teaching and Learning will occur on

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Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building

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The University of Alberta's Institute for Professional Development is mandated to provide research, program development, on-campus and distance-delivered continuing executive and professional development in collaboration with the U of A's faculties. External clients will include professional associations, corporations, government, and other public sector organizations.

The TELUS Centre, the first of its kind in Canada, will open in the spring of 2000 and will be the home of the university's Institute For Professional Development. This 48,000 square foot, state-of-the art learning facility has been conceived as a technology-rich venue, and will provide the facilities and technology infrastructure for just-in-time learning, anywhere.

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The successful candidate will be passionate about lifelong learning and professional development, entrepreneurial, and able to establish strong credibility in both corporate and academic cultures. The incumbent will have produced superior results in one or more of the following areas: academe; marketing educational products; corporate training and development; multi-media program development; distance-delivered education.

Please forward your resume, in strictest confidence, to David Simmonds, Ernst & Young Consulting Services Inc., 1800 Tower 2, Scotia Place, 10060 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 3R8. Confidential fax: (780) 441-9825.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

The Graduate Programs Coordinator assumes overall responsibility for the post-graduate diploma and master of science degree programs in health promotion. To date, the Centre for Health Promotion Studies (CHPS) has had seven graduates and 74 students, 21 of whom are enrolled in the distance option. The administration of these interdisciplinary graduate programs requires strong academic experience and administrative skills. A doctoral degree is required. This position is .5 to .6 FTE. A Search and Selection Committee has been created comprised of representatives of the CHPS Academic Staff, CHPS

Associates, and the Health Promotion Graduate Students Association. Closing date for letter of application, resume and the names of three references is May 3, 1999. Please send applications to:

Dr. Miriam Stewart, Director
Centre for Health Promotion Studies
5-10 University Extension Centre
8303 - 112 Street
Edmonton, AB T6G 2T4
Fax: 780-492-9579

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The University of Alberta requires a senior public affairs/marketing professional to fill the position of director of public affairs.

This Administrative and Professional Officer position reports to the Associate Vice-President (External Affairs) and is accountable for the development and implementation of communications and marketing initiatives which enhance and protect the reputation of the University of Alberta and further its strategic priorities.

The successful applicant will have outstanding leadership ability, excellent communication skills, and a solid understanding of marketing, print and electronic media production, media relations and community consultation. He or she will exhibit a high energy level and superior organizational abilities.

The director of public affairs must hold a university degree and have a minimum of five years' experience in a senior public affairs management position. Accreditation with the Canadian Public Relations Society or the International Association of Business Communicators is preferred.

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University of Alberta
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430 Athabasca Hall
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laurels

KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS 1999-2000

The University of Alberta congratulates the following individuals who have been named Killam Annual Professors for 1999-2000:

Dr. Bert Almon, Department of English
Dr. Glen Baker, Department of Psychiatry
Dr. Bob Hinings, Department of Organizational Analysis
Dr. Edward Knaus, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dr. Victor Liefers, Department of Renewable Resources
Dr. Debra Shogan, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Dr. Gregory Taylor, Department of Biological Sciences
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U of A Accommodation Guide

These facilities have contracted with the University of Alberta to provide accommodations at the rates indicated. Each facility has unique features and offers something to suit everyone's taste. To accommodate special guests to the University, reservations can be made using the Hotel Authorization Program (HAP) form which allows post-payment by the hosting department.

These rates are per night and are exclusive of convention conference rates which are established by conference/convention organizers. Rates valid to December 31, 1999 unless otherwise noted, taxes not included.



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Web Watch

By Randy Pavelich

Vladi Private Islands

<http://www.vladi-private-islands.de>

Microsoft's Bill Gates could probably dig out the spare change trapped between his couch cushions and buy a small country, but for the rest of us, there's Vladi Private Islands. Dealing in real estate for the discerning shopper, Vladi tours the world and presents available islands for our perusal. It's a nice-looking site with good photographs and descriptive text. Look for the bargains on Canada's east and west coasts! For those unsure about a long-term commitment, you can also rent islands starting at under US\$10 per day (Swiss Army knife not included).

Origins and Ancient History of Wine

<http://www.upenn.edu/museum/Wine/wineintro.html>

Lively and accessible with good substance, well-textured, has a playful personality and a subtle effervescence. Sounds like an elegant wine, but it actually refers to the Web site. The University of Pennsylvania has created a great site chronicling the ancient art of winemaking.

tion. "Hassle-free" property management provided. 250-383-7100, Lois Dutton, Duttons & Co. Ltd. #101 - 364 Moss Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 4N1

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<http://www.dur.ac.uk/dgg5dh1nhpc.html>

Some of the photos on this site are enough to make almost anyone strap up and jump headlong off some absurdly high point of land. How could this not be fun? News, articles, links and standing invitation for a pint of beer make for a highly satisfying site.

Do you have interesting sites you'd like to share? E-mail your suggestions to Randy Pavelich, university web manager, at: info@ualberta.ca.

Catherine Fletcher, Dentist BA(Hon), M.Sc., D.D.S. Mai Diab, Specialist in Pediatric Dentistry D.D.S., M.Sc.

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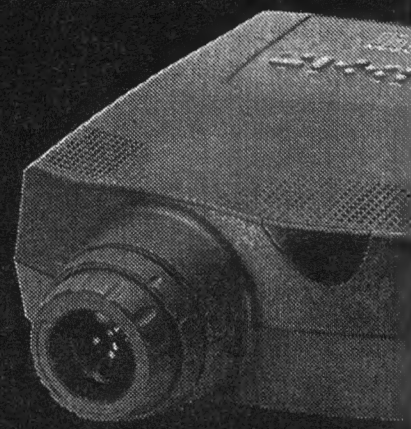
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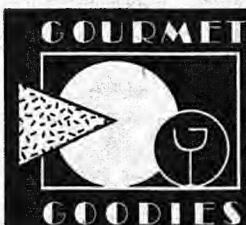
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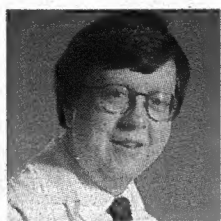
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A role fit for a King

By Roger Armstrong



Walking down the halls of the Heritage Medical Research Centre one cannot help but notice the lone dream catcher outside Dr. Malcolm

King's door. His earth-colored dream catcher is a circle with a web, a native symbol meant to trap negative dreams and spirits. Inside his office, King talks often of his dreams — opening doors of opportunity for aboriginals at the U of A and beyond.

A member of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation in Southern Ontario, King is one of only a handful of aboriginal research scientists in Canada.

"I didn't think of myself particularly as a role model. I was just

a scientist working in my lab and competing for funding." King, who is one-quarter aboriginal, wants to encourage and inspire more aboriginal Canadians to follow in his footsteps. His hope is, that before long, the number of aboriginals studying in professional programs will be proportional to their population in Alberta, about five per cent.

Aboriginal student Laurie Komorowski is in her third year of medicine and worked in King's lab last summer. "I see him as a role model because he strives to do excellent work in his field," she says.

King is not as interested in addressing the wrongs of the past as he is in address-

ing the problems facing aboriginals in Canada today. He believes education can raise the native community from its current status. That's why he's chair of the Native Health Care Careers committee, overseeing the admission and continuance of aboriginal students in the medical and dental programs at the

U of A. He is also acting chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Council which works as a coordinating body for the interests of the U of A aboriginal community. Across Canada, he is chair of a group encouraging aboriginal education across 11 medical schools.

King feels if native Canadians see the U of A as their university, they will be more inclined to attend. And providing aboriginals with more choices is what King is striving to do.

His efforts are gaining attention.

King recently received the 1999 National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the category of medical research. It also recognizes his work encouraging aboriginals to pursue an education in the health sciences. "It has already inspired me

to go on and try to achieve more for the aboriginal community."

King is a modest role model but is happy to play a stronger role if he can "open up the choices for young aboriginal kids."

His hope is, that before long, the number of aboriginals studying in professional programs will be proportional to their population in Alberta, about five per cent.

their active ingredients. "They are based on hundreds or thousands of years of the most basic clinical research of trial and error," says King. He adds: "In its own way, that is just as valid as a double-

While his major research focuses on lung diseases, he has also developed an interest in traditional aboriginal medicine. King's grandfather was an herbalist but unfortunately his knowledge was not passed on. He says, until recently, research in traditional medicine was actively discouraged by the scientific community. But he believes aboriginal medicine does have validity and he wants to find

blind, placebo-controlled crossover study that we do in two weeks for a modern drug."

But he's first and foremost a researcher. After completing a degree in chemistry at McMaster University, King went on to a PhD in polymer chemistry at McGill and spent 1973-74 in Israel doing post-doctoral work.

With more than one half the native population in Canada under the age of 25, King is aware of the challenges and potential ahead of him. He hopes to inspire many young aboriginals to follow his lead. And maybe one day, there will be many more dream catchers hanging on office doors across Canadian campuses. ■

King feels if native

Canadians see the U of A

as their university, they

will be more inclined to

attend. And providing

aboriginals with more

choices is what King is

striving to do.

WINS CARBIDE SCHOLARSHIP



Lloyd Malcolm King, Mississauga of the Credit Band, (above) who won the Union Carbide Scholarship of \$2,500 has entered a science course at McMaster University.

folio **back page**

Photos, clockwise from top left:

King with two of his daughters,

Jessa and Alana, in 1986.

McMaster graduation photo, 1968.

An awards ceremony with Drs. Nina Desjardins & Gerry Garrett, 1996.

At work in his lab, 1996.

McMaster dorm, 1967.

King with his father, Lloyd, 1998.

Malcolm with wife Natalie, 1975.